

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3243

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJ: UK LETTER TO SYG ON NATO HQ PARTICIPATION IN WINTEX EXERCISES

REF: USNATO 3242

PER REFTEL, THIS MESSAGE TRANSMITS TEXT OF AMB PECK'S (UK)
LETTER TO SYG ON NATO HQ PARTICIPATION IN WINTEX EXERCISES
DATED JUNE 9, 1975. MISSION POUCHED TO WASHINGTON (NO.
3206) UK PAPER REFERRED TO IN PARA 3 OF PECK'S LETTER.

BEGIN TEXT:

HIS EXCELLENCY

DR. J.M.H. LUNS GCMG CH

SECRETARY-GENERAL

NATO

NATO HEADQUARTERS PARTICIPATION IN WINTEX EXERCISES

1. AT THE CLOSE OF OUR BRIEF DISCUSSION ON THIS SUBJECT

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AT LUNCH ON TUESDAY, I PROMISED TO WRITE TO YOU ABOUT IT.
YOU WILL RECALL MY PREVIOUS LETTER ON THE SAME SUBJECT OF
15 OCTOBER 1974, WRITTEN BEFORE WINTEX 75; OUR VIEWS HAVE,

IF ANYTHING, BEEN STRENGTHENED BY EXPERIENCE IN THAT EXERCISE.

2. FOR SEVERAL YEARS NOW WE HAVE ADVOCATED THAT WHENEVER THE DPC ITSELF CANNOT BE ACTIVELY INVOLVED, A REPRESENTATIONAL COMMITTEE ACTING ON NATIONAL INSTRUCTIONS SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN WINTEXES. IDEALLY, THIS "EXERCISE DPC" WOULD BE COMPOSED OF DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES, ALTHOUGH WE RECOGNISE THAT, IF IT IS TO PLAY AROUND THE CLOCK AND FOR SOME DAYS, OTHER MEMBERS OF DELEGATIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE INVOLVED AS WELL AND WE READILY APPRECIATE THE DIFFICULTIES FOR THE SMALLER DELEGATIONS. FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF EXPERTISE IN DELEGATIONS AND THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF AS A WHOLE, THIS INVOLVEMENT IS IN ITSELF A DESIRABLE OBJECTIVE. UT, IN OUR VIEW, SUCH A BODY WOULD HAVE OTHER ADVANTAGES OVER THE TRADITIONAL IS/IMS RESPONSE CELL. AS YOU KNOW, MAY CAPITALS - INCLUDING LONDON - TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY OF WINTEXES TO RUN PARALLEL NATIONAL EXERCISES AND TO PRACTISE THEIR OWN CRISIS MANAGEMENT MACHINERY; AND IT WOULD BE MUCH MORE SATISFACTORY FOR THEM IF THEY COULD WORK TO A REPRESENTATIONAL "EXERCISE DPC" IN NATO HEADQUARTERS. AND WE NOTE THAT THE MNCS ALSO HAVE EXPRESSED A DESIRE FOR INCREASED NATO HEADQUARTERS PARTICIPATION IN WINTEX EXERCISES. ADMITTEDLY SUCH INCREASED PARTICIPATION, IN ADVANCE OF DIRECT DPC INVOLVEMENT AT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL, WOULD PLACE AN ADDITIONAL BURDEN UPON ALL OUR STAFFS, AND I RECALL AIR MARSHAL MACBRIEN'S REMARKS TO THIS EFFECT IN HIS LETTER TO YOU OF 16 OCTOBER 1974. BUT I WOULD HOPE THAT ANY DIFFICULTIES OF THIS KIND WOULD NOT PROVE TO BE INSURMOUNTABLE IN VIEW OF THE ADVANTAGES TO BE OBTAINED.

3. YOU WILL RECALL THAT, AT THE RECENT DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING, MY SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DEFENCE STRESSED THE VALUE OF PARTICIPATION IN CRISIS MANAGEMENT EXERCISES, FOR NATO HEADQUARTERS AS WELL AS CAPITALS. A PAPER CONTAINING OUR PROPOSALS HAS BEEN CIRCULATED TO THE COEC IN THE CONTEXT OF FOLLOW-UP ACTION TO WINTEX 75, AND I UNDERSTAND THAT A NUMBER OF OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE EXPRESSED VIEWS SIMILAR TO
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OURS. WE EXPECT THAT THERE WILL HAVE TO BE A MORE DETAILED STUDY OF THE POSSIBILITIES, IF THE DPC AGREES; BUT I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO RAISE WITH YOU AND OUR COLLEAGUES NOW THE FACT THAT MY AUTHORITIES ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THIS PARTICULAR ASPECT OF OUR CRISIS MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES.

EDWARD PECK
COPY TO: ALL DPC PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES
CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE
END TEXTBRUCE

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